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Libereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal privice with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: April 19, 2004

Signa ure: Anthony G. Sitko

PATENT No. IA00008

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re U.S. Patent Application of | ) | Europia and Coo D. Challenger   |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Juergen Reinold, et al.          | ) | Examiner: Cas P. Stulberger     |
| Application No.: 09/944,883      | ) | Art Unit: 2143                  |
| Filed: August 31, 2001           | ) | Confirmation no.: 4079 RECEIVED |
| For: Vehicle Active Network with | ) | APR 2 7 2004                    |
| Data Encryption                  | ) | Technology Center 2100          |

## **RESPONSE TO DECEMBER 18, 2003 FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is in response to the final Office Action mailed December 18, 2003. The applicants herewith petition for a one month extension of time to respond to the office action, the extended period of response thereby being set to expire Monday, April 19, 2004.

Status of the Claims is reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.